

A Taste of Louisiana

When I looked up taste in the dictionary, it said that taste is the ability to recognize and appreciate something that is excellent. It also said taste means to have a flavor or to experience the four basic tastes, and the four basic tastes are sweet, bitter, sour, and salty. Well, to me, Louisiana's outdoors fits all of these definitions. But I did not know this at first. Now I do because I learned more about my state this year in my Social Studies class. That is why I entered this contest. I wanted everyone to know how good our state is. I know, because I have experienced some outdoor things.

I have experienced some sweet times in Louisiana's outdoors. It was sweet when I went with Mrs. Moore, my Social Studies' teacher, to Lacassine to plant trees. It was sweet to look out of my car window and see all of the tall Christmas tree farms in North Louisiana.

But don't believe Louisiana is all sweet. I have experienced some sour things too. Oh, you should have seen the sour looks the alligators gave me at the Louisiana Oil and Gas Park in Jennings, Louisiana, and I was just trying to feed them. And then there was some sour-faced crawfish in Cameron that tried to snap my finger. They were almost as bad as the crabs that were crawling around on the beach.

When I went to the Cameron docks, I experienced some bitter and salty things too. The wind was bitter, but I didn't mind. I wanted to see how my Pawpaw brought in his oysters. I liked being that close to the water. I liked the salty taste of the wind. And I even tasted a live salty oyster. See, I told you Louisiana has some flavor.

Before I learned so much about Louisiana this year, I always thought our vacations to other states were pretty exciting. But now I know our state has a lot to offer, too. I can have an exciting vacation right here at home. I read in the Official Louisiana Tour Guide book that we have state parks, nature trails, wildlife and fisheries, vineyards, waterways, gardens and so much more. And one day soon, I plan to take a ride down the Mississippi River. And I want to explore the Louisiana African-American Heritage Trail that begins in Shreveport, Louisiana.

So as you can see, Louisiana outdoors does fit the definitions. And we do have a lot to offer. I hope other people will come and see everything wonderful about Louisiana. Louisiana outdoors is a beautiful experience. They will have a wonderful time!

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